

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

OMB-01 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 CU-02 EUR-12 /089 W

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R 151427Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6798

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 7587

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PE

SUBJ: POLITICAL ACTIVITY

REF: A) LIMA 7502, B) LIMA 7420

1. APRA HAS NOW ISSUED PUBLIC STATEMENT (REFTEL A), PUBLISHED IN SEPTEMBER 11 ULTIMA HORA, PRAISING THE "MEASURES TAKEN BY THE GOP BECAUSE THEY SIGNIFY THE REESTABLISHMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE POSSIBILITY OF THEREBY ACHIEVING OBJECTIVES OF NATIONAL UNITY". APRA "HOPES FOR" FURTHER STEPS. APRA COMMUNIQUE DECLARED THAT "AN EVALUATION OF THE NEW REALITY" WOULD BE GIVEN ON THE OCCASION OF THE PARTY'S ANNIVERSARY SEPTEMBER 19 (WHEN HAYA DE LA TORRE SPEAKS TO PARTY FAITHFUL).

2. APRA LEADER ARMANDO VILLANUEVA RETURNED TO LIMA MIDNIGHT SEPTEMBER 11. HE WAS RECEIVED AT AIRPORT BY HUNDREDS OF SUPPORTERS. NO PRESS REPORTS OF THIS HAVE YET APPEARED.

3. SEPTEMBER 11 RALLY AND MARCH (REFTEL B) BY LEFTIST PEASANT ORGANIZATION (CCP), TEACHERS UNION (SUTEP), AND FAR-LEFT TRADE UNIONS IN COMMEMORATION OF FALL OF SALVADOR ALLENDE AND IN OPPOSITION TO IMPERIALISM, ATTRACTED ABOUT 2,000 DEMONSTRATORS. MARCH WAS CARRIED OUT WITHOUT NOTABLE INCIDENT. SPEAKERS CON-DEMND NOT ONLY GOVERNMENTS OF CHILE AND U.S. BUT ALSO GOP. MARXIST PRIESTS ORGANIZATION (ONIS) ISSUED DECLARATION IN SUPPORT
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OF DEMONSTRATION AND DEMANDED "FULL GUARANTEES AND DEMOCRATIC

RIGHTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTING THE MASSES AND LIBERTY FOR THEIR IMPRISONED LEADERS".

4. ACCION POPULAR (AP) HAS BEEN ALLOWED TO REOPEN ITS LIMA OFFICE. PRESS CARRIED STATEMENT FROM WASHINGTON BY FORMER PRESIDENT BELAUNDE IN WHICH HE PRAISED THIS GOP GESTURE AND SAID THAT AP "WOULD RETURN TO POLITICAL ACTIVITY".

5. PRESIDENT MORALES BERMUDEZ MET SEPTEMBER 11 WITH LEADERS OF SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS AND TRADE UNIONS INCLUDING THE APRA CONFEDERATION OF PERUVIAN WORKERS (CTP). THERE WAS PRESS AND TV COVERAGE OF THAT MEETING.

6. COMMENT: PRESS COVERAGE (EVEN IF LIMITED) OF BELAUNDE'S STATEMENT, APRA COMMUNIQUE, AND THE CTP MEETING WITH MORALES BERMUDEZ INDICATES THAT GOP IS FOLLOWING THROUGH, AT LEAST PARTIALLY, ON THE SPIRIT OF RECENT DECREE LAW. ON THE OTHER HAND, FURTHER AMNESTY MEASURES PREDICTED BY PRIME MINISTER VARGAS PRIETO HAVE NOT YET BEEN ACTED UPON AND ONE USUALLY RELIABLE GOP SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF THAT THOSE ACCUSED OF COMMON CRIMES, SPECIFICALLY INCLUDING FORMER CARETAS PUBLISHER ENRIQUE ZILERI, COULD NOT EXPECT AMNESTY. GOP MAY HAVE DECIDED TO PROCEED VERY SLOWLY WITH FURTHER STEPS ALONG THE ROAD TO POLITICAL LIBERALIZATION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, POLITICAL PARTIES, PUBLIC ATTITUDES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LIMA07587
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750319-0372
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750952/aaaabuaf.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LIMA 7502, 75 LIMA 7420
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <20 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLITICAL ACTIVITY
TAGS: PINT, PE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006